

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A fluid power linear drive comprising a drive housing (1), in which at least one housing chamber (4) is located having a linear extent, in which at least one linearly movable piston (5) is placed, said piston being kinematically coupled with a force output part (8) having at least one force output section (7) accessible from outside the drive housing (1), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the drive housing (1) possesses two housing parts (2 and 3) placed together alongside each other, which at the mutually facing joint faces (16 and 17) are provided with half chambers (18a and 18b) constituted by elongated groove-like recesses, such half chambers being complementary to each other to form the at least one housing chamber (4).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the running face for the piston (5) is directly constituted by the wall of the housing chamber (4).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the running face for the piston (5) is constituted by a bearing bushing (23) inserted in the housing chamber (4), such bushing ~~preferably~~ consisting of metal.

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Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the bushing (23) is provided on the outer periphery with a surrounding seal (24) for sealing engagement with the wall of the housing chamber (4).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein the linear drive is designed in the form of any one of the claims 1 through 4, characterized by a design as a piston rod linear drive whose and wherein the force output part (8) is in the form of a piston rod (12) connected with the piston (5), such rod projecting through a passage opening (14), such opening being placed in front of the housing chamber axially, the passage opening (14) being constituted by two mutually complementary passage opening halves (22a and 22b) on the mutually facing joint faces (16 and 17) at the two housing parts (2 and 3).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 6, wherein at least one of ~~characterized in that in the passage opening (14) a bearing bushing (21) and/or and an~~ annular sealing and stripping means (26) for the piston rod (12) are arranged in the passage opening.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein any one of the claims 1 through 6, characterized in that as an axial extension of the housing chamber (4) terminal position damping chambers (45) are arranged as an axial extension of the housing chamber for terminal damping of the piston (5), such chambers being constituted by damping chamber halves (46a and 46b), which fit together in a complementary fashion, in the mutually facing joint faces (16 and 17) of the two housing parts (2 and 3).

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein any one of the claims 1 through 7, characterized in that in the joint region (15) of the two housing parts one or more respective jointly delimited cavities (27) are formed in a joint region of the two housing parts, the cavities being which are provided as fluid ducts (32) and/or as electrical conductor channels (33) and/or as accommodating chambers (34) for valve means (35) and/or for sensor means (36) and/or for other functional components (37) for the operation of the linear drive.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein characterized in that for the formation of one or more cavities (27) mutually facing recesses (28a and 28b) are provided for the formation of one or more of the cavities, the mutually facing recesses being which are complementary in a paired manner, on the two joint faces (16 and 17) of the housing parts (2 and 3), more especially for the formation of accommodating chambers (34) for valve means (35) and/or for sensor means (36).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein or in claim 9, characterized in that for the formation of one or more cavities (27) a recess (31a) formed in the joint face of the one housing part is covered over by a non-recessed region (31b) of the joint face of the other housing part for the formation of one or more of the cavities, more especially for the formation of fluid ducts (32) and/or of electrical conductor channels (33)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in Claim 8, wherein any one of the claims 8 through 10, characterized in that the fluid ducts constituted by one or more cavities (27) extend between the two working spaces (6a and 6b) separated in the housing

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chamber (4) by the piston (5) and at least one connection opening (38) provided on the outer face of the drive housing (1).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 11, characterized in that~~ electrical conductor channels (33) constituted by one or more cavities (27) extend between cavities (27) serving as accommodating chambers ~~chamber~~ (34) for electrically operated valve means (35) and at least one electromechanical connection means (44) ~~outer face of the drive housing (1).~~

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 12, characterized in that~~ the two housing parts (2 and 3) directly also constitute the housing of at least one valve, whose functional components are arranged in a an accommodating chamber (34) formed by at least one of the one or more cavities.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 13, characterized in that in the at least one cavity~~ cartridge-like valve means (35) are placed in the at least one cavity.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 14, characterized in that~~ valve means (35) are provided, ~~which define the valve means defining~~ at least one switch valve and/or at least one valve with a continuous characteristic.

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Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 15, characterized in that~~ in the case of one piston (5) provided with a piston rod, (12) at least one accommodating chamber (34) for the accommodation of valve means (35) is provided on the rear side, opposite to the piston rod (12), of the housing chamber (4).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 16, characterized in that~~ the sensor means (36) accommodated in one or more of the cavities (27) are in the form of pressure sensor means and/or position sensor means.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 8, wherein ~~any one of the claims 8 through 17, characterized in that~~ the at least one chamber (34) provided to accommodate sensor means (36) is arranged in the joint region (15) of the housing parts (2 and 3) alongside the housing chamber (4).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 18, characterized in that~~ the housing parts (2 and 3) at least adjacent to their half chambers (18a and 18b) defining the housing chamber (4) are respectively in the form of half shells.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 19, characterized in that~~ the in the joint region (15) a plurality of housing chambers (4) are defined in a joint region of the drive housing, the housing chambers

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being ~~which are~~ placed alongside each other and respectively provided with at least one piston ~~(5)~~.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 20, characterized in that~~ the two housing parts ~~(2 and 3)~~ consist of plastic.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 21, characterized in that~~ the two housing parts ~~(2 and 3)~~ are in the form of plastic castings ~~or more particularly injection moldings~~.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 20, characterized in that~~ the two housing parts ~~(2 and 3)~~ are in the form of foamed plastic components.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 23, characterized in that~~ the two terminal end walls ~~(13a and 13b)~~ of the at least one housing chamber ~~(4)~~ are directly formed by the two housing parts ~~(2 and 3)~~ placed on each other.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 24, characterized in that~~ the two housing parts ~~(2 and 3)~~ are bonded or welded at their joint faces ~~(16 and 17)~~.

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Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 25, characterized in that~~ electronic control circuitry is arranged on or in the drive housing (1).

Claim 27 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 27, characterized in that~~ all functional components employed for the electrical-fluidic control of the linear drive is integrated in the drive housing (1).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The linear drive as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims 1 through 27, characterized in that on the joint faces (16 and 17) of the two housing parts (2 and 3)~~ position securing means ~~(26a and 26b)~~ are provided on the joint faces of the two housing parts, the position securing means being ~~which are~~ in interlocking engagement with each other.